# WITHERNSEA URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL

# HEALTH AND SANITARY ADMINISTRATION

# ANNUAL REPORT

# 1952

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Withernsea,
East Yorkshire.

F. R. Cripps, M.D., D.P.H.
Medical Officer of Health.

Mr. Chairman, Councillor Mrs. Dosdale and Gentlemen.

Population.

The total population of Withernsea Urban District at midyear 1952, is estimated at 4954 a decrease of 69 from the 1951 estimated population.

Birth Rate.
83 live births were registered, 40 males and 43 females. Last year 73 births were registered including the abnormal number of 47 males; this year there is a slight preponderance of females which is also unusual, the average being 108 males for every 100 girls. The birth rate is 16.40 per 1000 population an increase of nearly 2 per 1000 over last year's rate of 14.5. When the rate is corrected by the area comparability factor of 1.12 which takes into account the age groups which predominate in the area we find the figure rises to 18.36. This corrected figure of 18.36 compares very favourably with the figure of 15.3 for the whole country and 15.5 for the small towns.
Of the 83 births 5 were illegitimate, 2 boys and 3 girls, or about 6%. For the whole of East Yorks in 1951 the rate was about 5%.

Death Rate.
Including those residents who had died away from home eg. in hospitals, 73 people died, 36 males and 37 females giving a Death Rate of 14.73 per 1000 population a decrease of 1.2 per 1000 from last year. When corrected by the area comparability factor this is reduced to 11.64 which closely corresponds to the death rate of 11.3 for England and Wales, and 11.2 for the smaller towns.
Heart disease, Cerebral Haemorrhage and Concer are the main causes of death amounting to over 50% of all deaths. Heart Disease alone causes 25% of the deaths and of these nearly a half is due to Cononary Thrombosis which is due to a blockage of one of the arteries of the heart muscle itself.

Maternal Mortality.
There were no deaths as a result of pregnancy, childbirth or abortion during the year. Over the whole country 496 mothers died as the result of complications in pregnancy or one for every 1390 births which is an improvement on 1951.

Infant Mortality.
There were no still births during the year but five of the babies died in their first year giving an infant mortality rate of 60 per 1000 live births. All of these children were legitimate giving a mortality rate of 64 per 100 legitimate births compared with only 27.6 for the whole country and 25.8 for the small towns. Of these 5 legitimate babies who died, four died during the first four weeks.
The causes of death in these 5 infants were; two died of prematurity, 2 and 3 days after birth, and two died from congenital defects 4 and 7 days after birth. One died when 4 months old from a congenital defect.
It is a little comforting to know that none of these children died from preventable diseases i.e. infective conditions like Bronco-Pneumonia or Summer Diarrhoea.
We do not know all the answers yet as to the cause of abortion or premature birth but good antenatal care and maternal education is still the best safeguard.

Prevalance and Control over Infectious Diseases.
85 cases of infectious diseases were notified during the year. In addition 2 cases of Pulmonary tuberculosis were notified.

Measles.
82 cases were notified, 47 of which occurred during the 1st quarter, and 30 in the 2nd quarter. The notification rate is 16.8 per 1000 population. Last year it was 5.18. Over the whole country it is 8.86 per 1000.

Scarlet Fever.
2 cases occurred during the winter months.

Whooping Cough.
There were no notifications of this distressing infantile disease and one would like to say that immunisation is beginning to have an effect in controlling it. The coming years will show whether the new improved vaccine will act as efficiently as the anti diphtheria vaccine has done. So far as is known there is every prespect of this if only parents would take advantage of this preventive measure.

Diphtheria.
For many years there have been no notifications of this horrible disease of childhood. It must be emphasised again and again that the germs of this disease are still rampant seeking an opportunity to attack some neglected i.e. unprotected child. Immunisation against both Diphtheria and Whooping cough is a simple and safe procedure wich costs nothing not even a disturbed night.

Gastritis, Enteritis and Diarrhoea.
No children died from this infective disease which is due to infection by germs which live and thrive in the bowels of a person who may or may not feel ill. Due to carelessness or lack of hygenic instruction the person does not wash the hands with soap and water after using the toilet and these may get heavily infected. It cannot be too often stressed and repeated that 95% of all food poisoning can be traced to this cause. It is easy for some of this infected material to get on the fingers and be transferred to food especially if the person is employed in handling food.
This fundamental fact should be impressed on children in the home and at school so that it becomes a habit to wash the hands.
Infection of milk or food by flies is another common cause. Flies are notoriously dirty feeders living chiefly on refuse, rotting food and lavatory middens and they have a very nasty habit of vomiting what they have previously eaten just before beginning on something fresh.

Vaccination and Immunisation against Diphtheria - 1952.
(a) Number of persons vaccinated or re-vaccinated during the year 1952:-

| Age at Date of Vaccination | Under 1. | 1 year. | 2 to 4. | 5 to 14. | 15 or over | Total. |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Number vaccinated | 36 | 1 | 1 | 5 | 9 | 52 |
| Number re-vaccinated | - | - | 1 | 6 | 28 | 35 |

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(b) Number of children at 31st December, 1952, who had completed a course of immunisation at any time before that date i.e. at any time since 1st January, 1938

| Age at 31.12.52. | Under 1 1952. | 1 1951. | 2 1950. | 3 1949. | 4 1948. | 5 to 9 1943-1947. | 10 to 14 1938-1942 | Total under 15. |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Number Immunised | 7 | 42 | 46 | 39 | 53 | 340 | 282 | 809 |

(c) Number of children immunised during the year ended 31st December, 1952. (Figures also included in (b) above).

| Under 5. | 5 to 14. | Total. | Boosters. |
|---|---|---|---|
| 47 | 4 | 51 | 105 |

Tuberculosis.

Two cases of Tuberculosis of the lungs are notified, one male and one female both aged 24. Lung Tuberculosis is spread by coughing and spitting and is very infectious. The germs are in the sputum and can live for years even when dried out.
The following table summarises the notifications and deaths.

| Age Group | New Cases. | | | | Deaths. | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | Pulm. | | Non Pulm. | | Pulm. | | Non Pulm. | |
| | M. | F. | M. | F. | M. | F. | M. | F. |
| 0 - 1 | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - |
| 1 - 5 | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - |
| 5 - 15 | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - |
| 15 - 25 | 1 | 1 | - | - | - | - | - | - |
| 25 - 35 | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - |
| 35 - 45 | - | - | - | - | 1 | - | - | - |
| 45 - 55 | - | - | - | - | 1 | - | - | - |
| 55 - 65 | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - |
| 65 and over | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - |
| | 1 | 1 | - | - | 2 | - | - | - |

There has been a decrease in the number of cases notified and in the number of deaths compared with last year. There is much research work yet to be done in protective innoculation against Tuberculosis such as has been done against Diphtheria and Whooping Cough, but the latest B.C.G. Vaccine is now largely used to protect young people coming in contact with cases of Pulconary Tuberculosis and when more commonly used will help to prevent the spread of this disease.

General Provision of Health Services.

National Health Service.

Hospital treatment is provided for in this area chiefly at Hull Infirmary and Westwood Hospital at Beverley where there are full facilities for X Ray and laboratory examinations.

Bacteriological examinations are also carried out at the Research Laboratory, High Street, Hull, chiefly for examinations of bacterial infections of food, water etc., Sanatoria and clinics for the diagnosis and treatment of Tuberculosis are part of the Health Service, as also is a Maternity Home at Withernsea.

The County Council provide services for the care of expectant and nursing mothers and infants including the unmarried mother and child; also Domiciliary midwifery health visitors, home nursing arrangements for vaccination and immunisation against Diphtheria and Whooping Cough,ambulance service and home help services.

Under the National Assistance Act 1948 the County Council became responsible for the provision of accommodation of all persons who by reason of age, infirmity or any other circumstance are in need of care and attention other than medical or nursing cases, and further for the provision of a Welfare Service for the blind deaf or dumb and other persons who are substantially and permanently handicapped by illness, injury or congenial deformity or such other disabilities as may be sanctioned by the Minister of Health. Persons requiring regular medical or sick nursing are the responsibility of the Regional Hospital Board.

National Assistance Act, 1948.

No action was taken by your Council under Section 47, but where necessary persons in need of care and attention owing to age etc., would be admitted to one of the Old Peoples residences with the co-operation of the County Council.

Section "C" overleaf.

# SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES OF THE DISTRICT FOR THE YEAR 1952.

## SECTION "C".

### WATER SUPPLY.

The water supply is obtained under contract from Kingston-upon-Hull Corporation, dating from February, 1916.

The supply is piped under pressure to a tower at Rimswell 2½ miles West from the Town and is then distributed by gravitation.

The supply has been satisfactory in quality and quantity. ( See Appendix).

The total consumption of water during the year was 60,594,000 gallons, AN INCREASE of 5,102,000 gallons (approx:8.6%) as compared with the consumption of 55,492,000 gallons during the year, 1951.

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| Consumption by Meter | = | 7,287,400 gallons. |
| Other non-Domestic Consumption | = | 1,121,975 gallons. |
| Domestic Consumption | = | 52,184,625 gallons. |
| Total Consumption | | 60,594,000 gallons |

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| Gross Daily Consumption | = | 165,535 gallons. |
| Domestic Consumption (Daily) | = | 142,581 gallons. |

Domestic Consumption, per head per day,
based on a population of 4954 = 28.78 gallons.

### SEWERAGE AND SEWAGE DISPOSAL.

The area is drained on the combined systen and the sewage is discharged into the sea without treatment. This is not a satisfactory means of disposal especially as the system is over laden owing to erection of new houses.

### COLLECTION AND DISPOSAL OF HOUSE REFUSE AND NIGHT SOIL.

No variation in the system has been found necessary.

(a) Night Soil. Night soil from 13 houses where the closets have not been converted to the water carriage system and from approximately 263 privies at the various camps in the Area is collected weekly by covered vehicle and disposed of to farms outside the district.

(b) House and Trade Refuse. 1,224 loads of House Refuse and 123 loads of Trade Refuse, weighing approximately 1,836 tons and 123 tons respectively, were collected, and dealt with at the Incinerator Station.

(c) Salvage of Materials. The arrangement entered into with a local scrap metal, etc., merchant whereby he undertook to sort all refuse delivered to the Incinerator Station and retain all salvaged material continued to work satisfactorily until the Merchant terminated the Contract in November, 1952.

(d) The following materials were sold during the year :-

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| Ash from Incinerator Plant | 393 c. yds. | - | £. 29. 9. 6d. |
| Clinker from " " | 125 c. yds. | - | £. 12. 10. 0d. |
| | | | £. 41. 19. 6 |

CONVERSION OF PRIVIES AND PAIL CLOSETS.

Strenuous effects are being made to convert the last few privies and pail closets into the water carriage system.

RODENT CONTROL.

(a) Surface Properties. Inspections have been made of a number of dwelling houses, business premises and farms and action taken to clear them of rats and mice.

(b) Sewer Treatment. Regular tests have been undertaken to ascertain the degre of infestation. This found to be small and where necessary disinfestation was carried out.

VERMINOUS PREMISES.

No complaints of infestation of bed bugs have been received.

One dwellinghouse found to be infested with fleas has been disinfested

WORKSHOPS.

The following workshops and factories are on the register :-

| | |
|---|---|
| Joiner ..... ..... | 4 |
| Letter Press and Printing ..... | 1 |
| Sweets and Ice Cream Manufacturer ..... | 1 |
| Charging Accumulators ..... | 1 |
| Coal Gas Manufacture ..... | 1 |
| Garage and Motor Repairs ..... | 4 |
| Bakeries ..... ..... | 4 |
| Plumber and Electricans ..... | 4 |
| Total | 20 |

The sanitary condition of the Lavatories were found to be in a satisfactory condition and the "Abstract of the Factories and Workshops" found duly posted.

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## SECTION "D".

### HOUSING.

Number of houses erected in 1952 :-

(a) Built by Council .... 12 Traditional Houses.

(b) Built by Private Enterprise .... 7 " "

### INSPECTION OF DWELLING-HOUSES DURING THE YEAR.

(1) (a) Total number of dwellinghouses inspected for housing defects (under Public Health or Housing Acts) .... .... 37

(b) Number of inspections made for the purpose .... 68

(2) (a) Number of dwellinghouses (included under sub-head (1) above which were inspected under the housing Consolidated Regulations 1925 and 1932 .... .... .... 17

(b) Number of inspections made for the purpose .... 30

(3) Number of dwellinghouses found to be in a state so dangerous or injurious to health as to be unfit for human habitation .... Nil

(4) Number of dwellinghouses (exclusive of those referred to under the preceding sub-head) found not to be in all respects fit for human habitation .... .... .... 17

### REMEDY OF DEFECTS DURING THE YEAR WITHOUT SERVICE OF FORMAL NOTICES.

Number of defective dwellinghouses rendered fit in consequence of informal action by the Local Authority or their Officers .... 17

### ACTION UNDER STATUTORY POWERS DURING THE YEAR.

(a) Proceedings under Sections 9,10 and 16 of the Housing Act,1936.

(1) Number of dwellinghouses in respect of which notices were served requiring repairs .... .... Nil

(2) Number of dwellinghouses which were rendered fit after service of formal notices .... .... .... Nil

(a) By Owners .... .... .... Nil

(b) By Local Authority in default of Owners .... Nil

(b) Proceedings under the Public Health Acts.

(1) Number of dwellinghouses in respect of which notices were served requiring defects to be remedied .... .... Nil

(2) Number of dwellinghouses in which defects were remedied after service of formal notices .... .... Nil

(a) By Owners .... .... .... .... Nil

(b) By Local Authority in default of Owners .... Nil

(c) Proceedings under Section 11 and 13 of the Housing Act, 1936.

(1) Number of dwellinghouses in respect of which Demolition Orders were made .... .... .... Nil

(2) Number of houses demolished in pursuance of Demolition Orders .... .... .... .... Nil

(d) Proceedings under Section 12 of the Housing Act, 1936.

(1) Number of separate tenements or underground rooms in respect of which Closing Orders were made .... Nil

(2) Number of separate tenements or underground rooms in respect of which Closing Orders were determined, the tenement or room having been rendered fit .... Nil

HOUSING ACT, 1936 - PART IV - OVERCROWDING.

(a) (1) Number of dwellings overcrowded at the end of the year Nil

(2) Number of families dwelling therein .... .... Nil

(3) Number of persons dwelling therein .... .... Nil

(b) Number of new cases of overcrowding reported during the year .... .... .... .... Nil

(c) (1) Number of cases of overcrowding relieved during the year Nil

(2) Number of persons concerned in such cases .... Nil

(d) Particulars of any cases in which dwellinghouses have again become overcrowded after the Local Authority have taken steps for the abatement of overcrowding .... .... Nil

Maintenance repairs to 27 Ministry of Health Requisitioned Houses (ex Military) have been carried out during the Year.

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## SECTION "E".

INSPECTION AND SUPERVISION OF FOOD.

Milk Supply.

There are 18 Purveyors of Milk on the register.

Number of Supplementary Licences issued for the sale of"Pasteurised" milk ... 2

Number of Supplementary Licences issued for the sale of "Sterilised" milk ... 3

Number of Supplementary Licences issued for the sale of "Tuberculin Tested" milk .... .... .... .... .... 1 1

The supervision of retail milk distribution was maintained and sampling of milk for bacteriological and biological examination continue.

Routine supervision of the preparation of retail food products,chiefly butchers premises, fish shops, grocery and confectionery shops was carried out.

Unsound Food.

The following foods, found on inspection to be unfit for human consumption, were voluntary surrended and destroyed :-

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| 1 No. | - | Can Milk |
| 1 No. | - | " Italion Peeled Tomatoes |
| 2¾ lbs. | - | Boiled Ham - tinned |
| 2¼ lbs. | - | Oatmeal |
| 6 lbs. | - | Chocolate Wafer Biscuits |
| 3 No. | - | 1 lb. Cans Jersey Tomatoe Juice |
| 1 No. | - | 20 Oz. Can Trinidad Grape Juice |
| 1 No. | - | 16 Oz. Tengers Strawberries(Can) |
| 4 No. | - | 15 Oz. Montlhery Peas " |
| 1 No. | - | 16 Oz. Red Champane Cherries " |
| 6 No. | - | 8 Oz. Pineapple flavoured health salts(can) |
| 1 No. | - | 1⅞ Oz. (equiv) Calk branded skimmed milk (can) |
| 1 No. | - | 29 Oz. Lucien Peas " |
| 1 No. | - | 1 lb. Bramble Jam |
| 1 No. | - | 16 Oz.Tin of Cambridge Sausages. |
| 1 No. | - | 1 lb. Can Prunes. |
| 1 No. | - | 11½ Oz. Can Ham ( Morey) |
| 1 No. | - | 2 lb. Can Linthort Cooked Boneless Pork Butt |

.....

## Summary of the Report for 1952.

| | |
|---|---|
| Average height above Sea level | 15 feet. |
| Are of Urban Distrct. | 882 acres. |
| Population mid 1952 - estimated | 4954 |
| decrease | 69 |
| Houses Number occupied end of 1952 | 1669 |
| Rateable Value - 31st December, 1952 | £29790 |
| Product of Penny Rate | £113.652 |

| Births. | 1952 | | | 1951 | 1950 |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | Males | Females | Total | | |
| Legitimate | 38 | 40 | 78 | 64 | |
| Illegitimate | 2 | 3 | 5 | 9 | |
| | | | 83 | 73 | 80 |
| Birth Rate per 1000 Civilian Population. | | | 16.4 | 14.5 | 16.4 |
| Still births - Legitimate | | | nil | 2 | |
| Illegitimate | | | nil | | |
| Still birth rate per 1000 Civilian Population. | | | 0 | 0.4 | |

| Deaths. | 1952 | | | 1951 | 1950 |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | Males | Females | Total | | |
| | 36 | 37 | 73 | 79 | |
| Death rate per 1000 Civilan Population | | | 14.73 | 15.9 | 13.5 |

Infant Mortality (i.e. in first year)

| | 1952 | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| Legitimate | 2 | 3 | 5 | 2 |
| Illegitimate | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Infant Mortality rate per 1000 live births | | | 60 | 27.4 |
| Infant Mortality rate per 1000 legitimate births | | | 64 | 30 |
| Infant Mortality rate per 1000 Illegitimate births. | | | 0 | 0 |

| | 1952 | 1951 |
|---|---|---|
| Deaths from Measles | 0 | 0 |
| Deaths from Whooping Cough | 0 | 0 |
| Deaths from Diarrhoea & Enteritis. | 0 | 1 |

Maternal Mortality.

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| Pregnancy Childbirth abortion. | 0 | 0 |

The following table shows the figures for the various causes of Death.

| Cause of Death | No. of Deaths. | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| | Male | Female | Total |
| Code No. Tuberculosis Respiratory | 2 | 0 | 2 |
| " other forms | 0 | 1 | 1 |
| Syphilitic disease | 1 | 0 | 1 |
| Diphtheria | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Whooping Cough | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Meningitis | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Poliomyelitis | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Measles | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Other infective diseases | 0 | 1 | 1 |
| Cancer | 3 | 7 | 10 |
| Diabetes | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Cerebral Haemorrhage | 4 | 8 | 12 |
| Heart Disease arterial | 2 | 6 | 8 |
| " " other | 6 | 5 | 11 |
| Circulatory Diseases | 3 | 1 | 4 |
| Pneumonia | 2 | 1 | 3 |
| Bronchitis | 1 | 0 | 1 |
| Ulcer of Stomach & Duodenum | 2 | 0 | 2 |
| Disease of Prostate Gland | 2 | 0 | 2 |
| Others | 8 | 7 | 15 |
| Totals | 36 | 37 | 73 |

Notification of Infectious Diseases. Not notified

| | 1951. | 1952. |
|---|---|---|
| Tuberculosis Pulmonary | 2 | 3 |
| Non Pulmonary | 0 | 0 |
| Scarlet Fever | 2 | 5 |
| Measles | 82 | 26 |
| Whooping Cough | 0 | 13 |
| Pneumonia | 1 | 2 |
| Erysipelas | 0 | 1 |
| Diphtheria | 0 | 0 |
| Typhoid Fever (enteric) | 0 | 1 |
| (Salmonella) Food Poisoning | 0 | 2 |
| Acute Infantile Paralysis | 0 | 0 |
| | 85 | 53 |

I have the honour to be

Your obedient servant,

Francis R. Cripps

Medical Officer of Health.

(COPY)

Appendix A

CITY AND COUNTY OF KINGSTON UPON HULL.

City Laboratories,
184, High Street,
Kingston upon Hull.

March 17th, 1953.

The Water Engineer & Manager,
Kingston upon Hull.

Dear Sir,

BACTERIOLOGICAL DATA OF WATER from DUNSWELL
taken March 3rd, 1953.

| | |
|---|---|
| No. of Colonies growing on Nutrient Agar at 21° C. per 1 ml. of the water (3 days), | 11 |
| No. of Colonies growing on Nutrient Agar at 37°C. per 1 ml. of the water (2 days), | 1 |
| Presumptive B. Coli Test ( 2 days) :- Probable No. Bac. Coli in 100 mls. of the water, | 0 |

Yours faithfully,

(Signed) D. J. T. BAGNALL.

Public Analyst and
Corporation Bacteriologist.